Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

UN PEACEKEEPING

Vancouver Canada 2017

Defence Ministerial

REPORT

14-15 November, 2017

United Nations Peacekeeping

un.org/peacekeeping

Canada

DGM-2/1111/+XT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 1 2018-04-05 3:12 PM

COVER

1. Two Nigerian officers from the UN Formed police unit in Haiti speak with children as they patrol the streets of Port-au-Prince.

2. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and UN Under-Secretary-General Jean-Pierre Lacroix present the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award to Major Seitebatso Pearl Block.

3. Angelina Jolie, UN High Commission for Refugees Special Envoy and Co-Founder of the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative, participates in a roundtable with senior military officials.

4. Hon. Harjit Sajjan, Minister of National Defence and H.E. Rt. Hon. Michaëlle Jean, Secretary General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie participate in the "Youth as Peacebuilders" workshop.

Further information

Further information about the 2017 Peacekeeping Ministerial may be found at the following address:
https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/campaigns/peacekeeping-defence-ministerial.html

D2-397/2018E-PDF
978-0-660-24952-0

DGM-27117-EXT

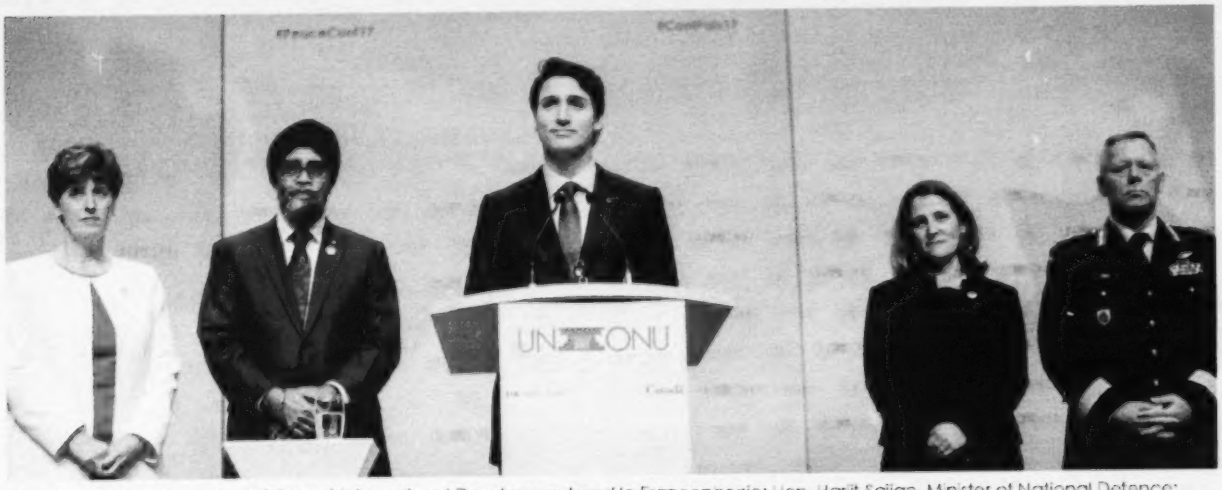
UN PEACEKEEPING DEFENCE MINISTERIAL

OBJECTIVES OF THE MINISTERIAL

1. Take stock of the efforts achieved since the last UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial, held in London, United Kingdom, in 2016;
2. Encourage new pledges from Member States to close key capability gaps for UN peacekeeping operations;
3. Advance peacekeeping reform to improve the UN's capacity to better plan and perform peacekeeping operations;
4. Foster pragmatic and innovative solutions to make peacekeeping operations more effective, by building on the "3Ps" (pledges, planning, performance) with the addition of a new focus on partnerships.

SUMMARY

On 14-15 November 2017, the United Nations Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial in Vancouver brought together the largest ever gathering of defence delegations dedicated to peacekeeping. Canada, the United Nations and 10 co-host nations – Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Rwanda, Uruguay, the United States, and the United Kingdom – welcomed Ministers of Defence as well as official delegations from 80 countries and five international organizations to elicit new pledges and advance existing pledges with the aim of filling gaps in UN capabilities, reforming peacekeeping to address recurring problems, increasing the number of women involved in peacekeeping and modernizing tools by doing peacekeeping differently. The Vancouver Ministerial was the latest in a series of high-level meetings that have focused on marshalling extra support to assist in meeting the world's list of needs in the area of UN peacekeeping.



Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and la Francophonie; Hon. Harjit Sajjan, Minister of National Defence; Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs; and General Jonathan Vance, Chief of the Defence Staff.

DGM-2/1117-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 1 2018-04-05 3:12 PM

Following a moment of silence for fallen peacekeepers, the plenary event was officially opened by the Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Canadian Minister of National Defence. To guide deliberations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, underlined the priorities of modern peacekeeping:

- the importance of prioritizing political solutions;
- the protection of civilians; and
- the need for peacekeepers to be more effective and more mobile, with better training.

Speaking to the assembled delegations, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau celebrated Canada's tradition of peacekeeping, beginning with the legacy of Lester B. Pearson, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957 for his leadership in resolving the Suez Canal Crisis. The Prime Minister emphasized that today's peacekeeping challenges are those of a new era. To this end, Canada announced a number of pledges, including an initiative to increase the number of women in peacekeeping – the Elsie Initiative on Women in Peace Operations. Prime Minister Trudeau also unveiled the Vancouver Principles, a comprehensive set of pledges including political commitments by Member States to enhance the training, planning, and conduct of their own forces as they relate to preventing the recruitment and use of child soldiers.

In recognition of her tireless work advocating equality in peacekeeping and in recognition of the crosscutting importance of gender, Major Seitebatso Pearl Block of the South African National Defence Force received the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.

During the conference, 49 delegations announced new peacekeeping pledges and 14 delegations advanced pledges that had been made previously. Many of these announcements consisted of 'smart pledges' – an emerging practice to address critical capability gaps and improve coordination with the United Nations and amongst Member States.

THE ROAD TO VANCOUVER

The scope of the 2017 Defence Ministerial extended well beyond the events of 14-15 November in Vancouver. Preparatory meetings in Kigali, Tokyo, and Dhaka were held in the run-up to the Ministerial by co-hosts Rwanda, the Netherlands, Japan and Bangladesh, with each meeting focused on making progress towards a key challenge of modern peacekeeping. These preparatory meetings were attended by 46 Member States and three international organizations, and represented a new approach to the Peacekeeping Ministerial that was welcomed by the United Nations as a direct contribution to the success of the event in Vancouver. In addition, a civil Society Roundtable also was held in October 2017 in Ottawa, providing civil society actors the chance to make concrete recommendations on peacekeeping reform and modernization, which were then relayed to the delegations assembled in Vancouver. These events helped establish networks of peacekeeping expertise, communication, and cooperation that will live on past the conclusion of the Ministerial event in Vancouver.

GENDER AND PEACEKEEPING

Recognizing that integrating gender perspectives and empowering women are integral to improving the effectiveness of UN peacekeeping, these crosscutting issues were integrated into all aspects of the Ministerial, including in discussions on peacekeeping planning and performance. As of October 2017, fewer than 3,000 women military

DGM-2/1111/-FXT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 2 2018-04-05 3:12 PM

peacekeepers were deployed – 3.6% of the total. Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 has been unacceptably slow, and numerous delegations affirmed their commitment to increasing the number of well-trained, well-equipped women peacekeepers on the ground.

The importance of gender awareness and gender equality was raised consistently throughout the Ministerial, and across panels discussing smart pledges, training and capacity building, protecting those at risk, and early warning and rapid deployment. Of the 49 delegations that made new peacekeeping pledges, 32 of these pledges contained a gender element.

POLICE IN PEACEKEEPING

The number of police personnel deployed in United Nations peacekeeping missions has increased significantly in recent years and police-related tasks in mission mandates have become more complex. UN Police engage across the entire spectrum of peace and security and carry out dynamic mandates encompassing operations, training, mentoring, advising, capacity building and, in some instances, direct law enforcement. In his interventions, Luis Carrilho, the United Nations Police Adviser, reaffirmed the key role of police in the protection of civilians – including protection against gender-based violence – and encouraged troop contributing countries to increase pledges of police capabilities to peacekeeping operations. He noted that police are often the most visible manifestation of the State and an essential element for the promotion of peace, post-conflict reconstruction and sustainable development.

Hon. Raul Jungmann (Brazil), Ms. Jane Connors (UN); Hon. José de Azeredo Lopes, (Portugal)

A number of Member States made new pledges for police personnel and police resources in Vancouver and many noted the requirement for better coordination across uniformed services, including the need for clear rules of engagement for United Nations and local police components. In that context, many Member States said that increasing the number of women in United Nations police – women currently make up less than 10% of police peacekeepers – will also help establish trust with local populations and help create a safe environment for victims of sexual violence to report crimes. The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations noted that police deployment is becoming an increasingly important tool in complex United Nations peacekeeping operations. Twenty-one countries pledged commitments related to policing in UN peacekeeping, which include pledges of: police officers, including increasing the number of women police officers; Formed Police Units; SWAT-units and Specialized Police Teams.

Mr. Luis Carrilho, United Nations Police Adviser

Mr. Chris Lewis, Councillor for the Squamish Nation and Ms. Charlene Aleck, Councillor for the Isleil-Waututh Nation

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

DGM-2/1117-FXT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_V2.indd 3 2018-04-05 3:12 PM

OPERATING IN FRANCOPHONE ENVIRONMENTS

Today, some of the United Nations most complex peacekeeping operations take place in francophone environments and past experience demonstrates the central role of linguistic capabilities in building dialogue with communities. As one delegation noted, the focus on the operations in francophone environments in the context of United Nations peacekeeping is not primarily about promoting the use of French, but rather about increasing effectiveness. Simply put, given the number of United Nations peacekeeping operations in francophone countries, the growing complexity of peacekeeping mandates and increasing interactions with the local population, there is a growing need for peacekeepers to be able to interact with local populations in French.

Michaëlle Jean, the Secretary-General of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*, highlighted in her address the need for personnel deployed on UN peacekeeping operations in francophone environments to be cognizant of the cultural and historical realities they are being deployed to, and to be able to communicate in French with local populations. To that end, eleven Member States pledged to provide capabilities to improve operations in francophone environments, such as additional French-speaking troops, additional training in French and translations into French of resources available to UN personnel. Beyond individual pledges, some delegations recognized the need for bilateral and multilateral partnerships between francophone countries and international organizations, such as the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*, and non-French-speaking troop contributing countries.

H.E. Rt. Hon. Michaëlle Jean, Secretary-General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie and recording artist, peace activist, and former child soldier, Emmanuel Jal.

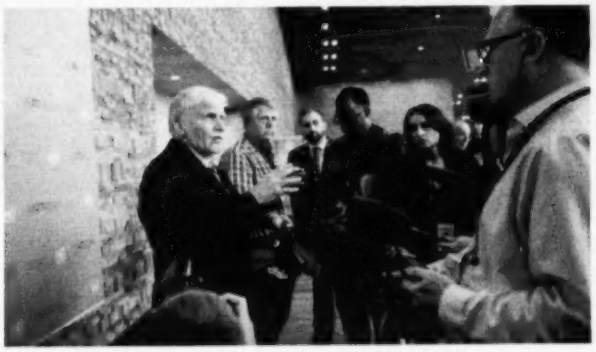
Keynote Address

Angelina Jolie, UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) Special Envoy and Co-Founder of the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative

In her keynote address, the UNHCR Special Envoy implored participants to end gender-based violence and argued that tackling its most extreme form, sexual violence as a weapon of war, is vital for future peace and security:

"Even if we accept that sexual violence has nothing to do with sex, that it is a crime, and that it is used as a weapon, many people still believe that it is simply not possible to do anything about it. Look at how hard it is in our own societies, the argument goes. How could we possibly prevent sexual violence in the extreme conditions of war? It is hard, but it is not impossible. We have the laws, the institutions, and the expertise in gathering evidence. We are able to identify perpetrators and those responsible. What is missing is the political will."

DGM-2/111/+XT_UNPKDM Report-Eng_v2.indd 4 2018-04-06 3:12 PM



LGen (ret'd.) the Hon. Roméo Dallaire speaks to media.

THE VANCOUVER PRINCIPLES

The Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers, endorsed by over 50 UN Member States at the time of launch in Vancouver, is an initiative developed by the Canadian government in partnership with the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative that will place greater emphasis in peacekeeping contexts on efforts to prevent the recruitment and use of child soldiers.

Atul Khare, UN Under-Secretary-General for Field Support

"Partnerships with Member States and regional organizations are critical for the success of the United Nations and for the success of peacekeeping. We have partnerships that involve Member States who give us the mandates, who provide us with the troops, who provide us with the financial resources, critical equipment and political support."

The Principles are a set of 17 pledges that build on an existing body of policy and international law surrounding children and armed conflict, including the Paris Principles. The Vancouver Principles focus on the challenges posed by child soldiers in a peacekeeping context, placing additional emphasis on efforts to prevent the recruitment of child soldiers, including through early warning and reporting on grave violations of children's rights.

SMART PLEDGES

Chair: Rt. Hon. Earl Howe, P.C., Minister of State for Defence and Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, United Kingdom

Panelists:

Hon. Frank Bakke-Jensen, Minister of Defence, Norway

MGen (ret'd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique, Defence and Security Advisor to the PM, Bangladesh

Mr. Wim Geerts, Deputy Minister of Defence, Netherlands

Smart pledges are pledges made in conjunction with other Member States and international organizations that fill key capabilities gaps for UN peacekeeping. The Ministerial highlighted smart pledges as a crucial tool to ensure the deployment of key enablers and specialized capabilities. In a panel announcing new and advanced smart pledges by Member States, commitments were made to use new mechanisms to fill the UN's need for rapid deployment, to provide female engagement teams and mixed-gender units to address crucial gaps, to establish medical facilities, and to provide innovations in training.

Panelists also discussed the importance of partnerships between multiple Member States, especially for smaller troop contributing countries. Smart partnerships have been used to provide rotational arrangements between countries, allowing for scarce, high-end capabilities to be deployed on a consistent, longer-term basis. While these partnerships have so far focused on air capabilities, a general interest in extending rotational arrangements to other areas of peacekeeping, such as medical facilities, was expressed. Regional cooperation through smart pledges was specifically highlighted as a way for Member States to work together to ensure that pledges could be targeted to fit the needs of modern peacekeeping operations.

DGM-2/1117-FXT_UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 5 2018-04-05 3:12 PM

INNOVATION IN TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Chair: Hon. Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada

Panelists:

Hon. Tomohiro Yamamoto, State Minister of Defence, Japan

Hon. Peter Hultqvist, Minister of Defence, Sweden

Mr. Philippe Errera, Director General International Relations & Strategy, Ministry of Defence, France

Dr. Patricia Flor, Federal Government Commissioner for Disarmament and Arms Control and Director-General for International Orders, the United Nations and Arms Control, Germany

MGen Jean-Paul Deconinck, Force Commander MINUSMA

Patrick M. Shanahan, United States Deputy Secretary of Defense

"The world needs strong leadership right now. We come from different backgrounds, experiences and places that influence how we view security challenges, but we have a common goal – to protect and save innocent lives."

A key lesson of peacekeeping missions is the importance of training and capacity building, both in terms of improving the capabilities of peacekeeping forces and in building the strength of the local forces, a vital factor for long-term stability. Contributions by delegations focused on ways to support the professional military skills needed to fulfill peacekeeping mandates and help foster sustainable peace.

Delegations highlighted the importance of UN training standards and evaluation criteria to ensure consistency and effectiveness in the preparation of peacekeepers for deployment. Regional capacity building arrangements and bilateral partnerships, the deployment of mobile training teams and the development of specialized skills such as language skills were raised as key ways to address the challenges facing the UN today. Further, the importance of additional training opportunities for women to increase the number of women peacekeepers, as well as gender-based training programs for all peacekeepers, and not just for women, was stressed.

PROTECTING THOSE AT RISK

Chair: Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations

Panelists:

Mrs. Rebecca Skinner, Associate Secretary of Defence, Australia

Hon. Raul Jungmann, Minister of Defence, Brazil

Hon. José Alberto de Azeredo Lopes, Minister of National Defense, Portugal

Gen James Kabarebe, Minister of Defence, Rwanda

Ms. Jane Connors, Assistant Secretary-General, Victims' Rights Advocate, United Nations

Protecting vulnerable populations is a primary goal of peacekeeping operations and more than 95% of UN peacekeeping personnel currently serve in missions with a mandate to protect civilians. Discussions at the Ministerial highlighted the modern challenges of peacekeeping, with many delegates noting their support for the reforms proposed by United Nations Secretary-General Guterres. In addition to numerous pledges for new resources and capabilities, delegates in Vancouver noted that protecting those at risk requires peacekeeping operations to better anticipate threats to populations. Increasing the number of women in peacekeeping missions was noted by many as an important step to help gain the trust of local communities and protect populations most at risk, including women and children.

Discussions highlighted that protecting those at risk also means holding peacekeepers accountable and bringing those guilty of crimes to justice. In that context all

A Ghanaian police officer of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) poses with school children at the El Sereif camp for internally displaced persons, in South Darfur.

DGM-2/1117-FXT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 6 2018-04-05 3:12 PM

participating countries pledged their support for the UN Secretary-General's focus on zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse. It was agreed that the protection of civilians is primarily the responsibility of host countries; the United Nations and troop contributing countries must work to create the conditions for this transition to take place.

EARLY WARNING AND RAPID DEPLOYMENT

Chair: Mr. Atul Khare, Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, United Nations

Panelists:

Hon. Khurram Dastgir Khan, Minister of Defence, Pakistan

MGen Shao Yuanming, Deputy Chief of Staff, Joint Staff Department of the Central Military Commission, China

MGen Ben Francis Okello, Chief, Plans and Operations Unit, Peace Support Operations Division in the Peace and Security Department, African Union

Hon. Jüri Luik, Minister of Defence, Estonia, Representing the Presidency of the European Union

Mr. Luís Carrilho, Police Advisor, United Nations

Discussions at the Ministerial highlighted that early warning and rapid deployment mechanisms are needed more than ever to prevent escalations of violence. Noting that the capacity to react to early warnings can build trust with local populations and save lives, a number of participating countries made concrete pledges for units and resources to be made available to the United Nations for rapid deployment. In view of the increasing complexity of peacekeeping operations, various delegations suggested that the United Nations is not only in need of additional resources

Opening Ceremony

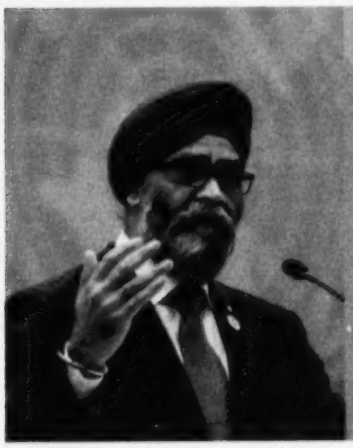
but also of new strategies and better coordination mechanisms to avoid overlapping efforts. This includes better coordination between and among troop contributing countries, as well as earlier and more effective engagement with host countries to facilitate quicker deployments.

Some delegations noted a possible role for regional organizations to act in times of crises and fill in gaps in situations where the UN lacks the ability to deploy resources quickly. In addition to their pledges, several Member States reiterated their commitment to UN initiatives including to increase the number and percentage of women deployed on peacekeeping operations and to uphold the highest standards of behaviour as framed in codes of conduct, including the UN Secretary-General's policy of zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse.

Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan; UN Under-Secretary-General Jean-Pierre Lacroix and UN Under-Secretary-General Atul Khare

MGen Shao Yuanming (China), MGen Ben Francis Okello (African Union) and Hon. Jüri Luik (European Union)

DGM-2/1117-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 7 2018-04-05 3:12 PM



Minister of National Defence Harjit S. Sajjan

"It has been an honour and a privilege to host these deliberations. Now, as we return home, we must turn the solemn promise of today into the concrete results of tomorrow.

We must continue to work together to ensure the UN is able to respond to the evolving challenges we face.

Because, as Lester B. Pearson put it so well:

'Of all our dreams today there is none more important – or so hard to realize – than that of peace in the world. May we never lose our faith in it, or our resolve to do everything that can be done to convert it one day into reality.'"

YOUTH AS PEACEBUILDERS WORKSHOP AND TOWN HALL

Involving youth in the promotion of peace and security was a key goal of the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial. Prior to the Ministerial plenary, the United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC) organized a working session and town hall of youth delegates. The delegates discussed a number of recommendations for supporting the role of youth as peacebuilders – including lowering the voting age in Canada, promoting education at all levels, and supporting the role of Indigenous youth – which were then presented to the Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, Marie-Claude Bibeau. Roméo Dallaire, Lieutenant General (ret'd) and head of the Child Soldiers Initiative, and Michaëlle Jean, Secretary-General of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*, participated in the workshop, working with youth delegates to foster innovative ideas. A full account of the event and of recommendations made by youth delegates will be released by UNAC later this year.

Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau participates in the "Youth as Peacebuilders" Town Hall.

THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN CONFLICT PREVENTION

Coordinated by the Department of National Defence and the office of Dominic Barton, Global Managing Partner at McKinsey & Co, this event brought together the Canadian Minister of National Defence, Harjit S. Sajjan; the Minister of International Development, Marie-Claude Bibeau; and five panelists – John Thornton, Alexandra Guáqueta-Gitvin, Charles Sirois, Karin Finkelston, and Ambassador Marc-André Blanchard – to discuss the role of the private sector in conflict prevention. Noting that most conflicts cannot be resolved militarily, panelists discussed the role of the private sector in conflict prevention, economic growth, youth employment and preventing radicalization in conflict areas. They agreed that post-conflict reconstruction and the maintenance of peace requires private sector investment and that governments have a role to play in promoting local entrepreneurship – especially for women entrepreneurs.

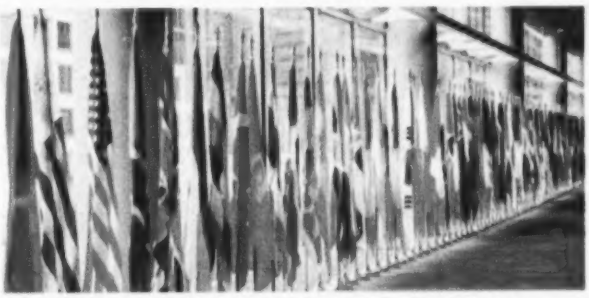
DGM-2711?-F-XT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 8 2018-04-06 3:12 PM

Governments must enact regulations to encourage new investments in conflict and remote areas, drawing on the expertise of international organizations such as the International Finance Corporation. As global official development assistance will continue to fall short of the needs of the developing world, participants agreed that there is a compelling case for continuing to invest in innovative ways to address conflict prevention, as research shows this has a significant and lasting impact. As Minister Sajjan noted, the military can 'buy time' to prevent and stop conflicts, but only a strong civil society and private sector can build sustainable growth.

WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY CHIEFS OF DEFENCE NETWORK

The launch of the Women, Peace and Security Chiefs of Defence Network (WPS CHOD Network) marked the debut of a forum for senior military leaders to advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda in national militaries by sharing best practices, addressing barriers and challenges, and measuring progress. The event was co-hosted by Bangladesh, Canada, and the UK with close to 30 countries and 65 representatives attending. Remarks from co-hosts focused on the importance of actively engaging CHODs as those in positions of influence on WPS and the integral role of gender perspectives in operational planning and decision making. Bangladesh, Canada and the UK announced their pledges to the network, followed by interventions from countries pledging to join the network in addition to pledges related to advancing the tenets of UNSCR 1325 and the WPS agenda in their national armed forces. The Network agreed to meet on the margins of conferences like the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial to evaluate progress on pledges and to discuss challenges.

Ms. Jody Thomas, Deputy Minister of National Defence; Hon. Harjit Sajjan, Minister of National Defence; Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and General Jonathan Vance, Chief of the Defence Staff.



Delegates from 80 countries and 5 international organizations attended the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial in Vancouver.

Dominic Barton, John Thornton, Alexandra Guáqueta-Girvin, Charles Sirois, Karin Finkelston and Ambassador Marc-André Blanchard participate in the panel discussion on the role of the private sector in conflict prevention.

DGM-27117-FXT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 9 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

ANNEX A
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

African Union Commission
Argentina*
Armenia*
Australia*
Austria*
Bangladesh*
Belgium*
Benin*
Bhutan*
Brazil
Cambodia*
Cameroon*
Canada*
Chad
Chile*
China*
Colombia*
Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia*
Czech Republic*
Denmark
Egypt*
Estonia
Ethiopia*
European Union*
Fiji*
Finland*
France*
Gambia*
Georgia
Germany*
Ghana*
Greece
Guatemala
Hungary
India*
Indonesia*
Ireland*
Italy*
Japan*
Jordan*
Kazakhstan*
Kenya*
Kyrgyzstan
Lithuania*
Malaysia
Mexico*
Mongolia*
Morocco*
NATO*
Nepal*
Netherlands*
New Zealand
Nigeria*
Norway*
Organisation internationale de la Francophonie
Pakistan*
Peru*
Philippines*
Poland*
Portugal*
Republic of Korea*
Romania*
Russian Federation
Rwanda*
Senegal*
Serbia
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka*
Sweden*
Thailand*
Tunisia
Turkey*
Uganda*
Ukraine*
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*
United Nations
United Republic of Tanzania*
United States of America*
Uruguay*
Vietnam*
Zambia*

*indicates new and/or advanced pledge announcements in Vancouver

For more detailed information on specific pledges by delegation, please visit:
https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/campaigns/peacekeeping-defence-ministerial/pledges.html

DGM-2/111/-FX1_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 10 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

ANNEX B
2017 UN PEACEKEEPING DEFENCE MINISTERIAL: VANCOUVER COMMUNIQUÉ

From 14-15 November 2017, delegations from 80 countries met in Vancouver, Canada, to re-affirm their commitment to United Nations peacekeeping.

For over sixty years, UN peacekeeping has served as the standard bearer of the world's shared commitment to international peace and security, proving to be one of the most effective tools available to assist host countries and their populations, in navigating the difficult path from conflict to peace.

We salute the brave women and men who serve in peacekeeping operations around the world, and pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuit of peace.

As these operations grow in complexity, the UN too must evolve: not just to keep pace, but to anticipate, to adapt, and to respond – differently and better – to the challenges before us. As Members of the United Nations, whether as host nations or as troop, police, financial, or equipment contributors, we have an essential role in this evolution. We recognise that ours can only be a shared success, achieved in partnership with the UN Secretariat, regional organisations, and with each other.

MOVING FORWARD IN UN PEACEKEEPING: WORKING DIFFERENTLY AND BETTER, TOGETHER

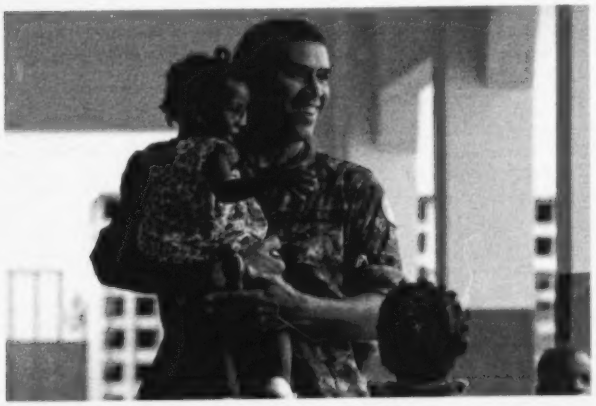
To this end, we must work together to reform our shared institutions, enhance operational effectiveness, and to make a sustained and collective effort to address capability gaps in UN peacekeeping. It also requires us to integrate gender perspectives in defining and delivering these capabilities, if we are to truly do things differently and better.

We are therefore encouraged by the Secretary-General's efforts to pursue comprehensive reform in the areas of management, development, peace and security, and gender. We take note of the 2015 Peace Operations Review[1], and the complementary focus of these processes in orienting UN peacekeeping towards a greater field-focus, and in placing people at the centre of our efforts. The UN must evolve to better address critical challenges in the design, planning, resourcing, execution and oversight of peacekeeping operations.

We welcome the new pledges made by 49 delegations at the Vancouver Ministerial, and the progress these pledging conferences have achieved in meeting persistent capability gaps and improving the performance and capabilities of uniformed and civilian personnel. As a result of collective efforts— planning, pledges, performance, together with the primacy of politics and partnerships — have come to underpin our approach to strategic force generation and are integral to the success of UN peacekeeping.

1. The report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (A/70/95-S/2015/446) and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Panel's recommendations (A/70/357-S/2015/682)

DGM-2/1117-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 11 2018-04-06 3:13 PM



As we continue to improve strategic force generation, we must broaden our planning horizons, moving beyond short-term operational gaps or troop and police ceilings as drivers for capability discussions; systematically and transparently build longer-term solutions for force generation, including through better data-driven mission analytics; and proactively address gender, police and francophone capacities, which remain in short supply and are important to the success of UN peacekeeping. We should also consider, from the start, exit strategies for peacekeeping operations.

In line with these objectives, in Vancouver, we identified concrete ways to move forward in UN peacekeeping, working differently and better, together, by:

- Re-affirming our commitment to UN peacekeeping, through the next generation of *smart* pledges;
- Improving our ability to deliver on this commitment, through innovations in training and capacity-building;
- Aligning our corresponding capabilities to where they are most needed in the field, through concerted and integrated strategies in order to protect those most at risk, and
- Enhancing the effectiveness of how we deliver these capabilities, through improved approaches to partnering and planning in early warning and rapid deployment.

We further affirmed that integrating gender perspectives, increased knowledge of local language and culture, including the continuing need to focus on operating in francophone environments, and strengthening UN Police are key to the long-term success of these objectives.

SMART PLEDGES

First and foremost, we affirmed the necessity of moving beyond traditional models of pledging and deploying to consider ways that multiple countries could share the burden of providing the capabilities that are in highest demand. *Smart* pledges serve as an enabler in their own right and provide the predictability of supply that is needed to enhance a mission's chance of long-term success. We encourage Member States to identify where they can jointly implement *smart* pledges and commend initiatives underway, such as efforts amongst Member States and the UN Secretariat to establish rotation plans for military transport aircraft in the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali.

From the very beginning, strategic force generation pushes us to consider the capabilities that are needed to fulfil mandates and ensure the safety and security of United Nations personnel in the field. *Smart* pledges are a means of meeting the most critical capability gaps in UN peacekeeping, particularly in areas such as aviation, engineering, and medical.

In this regard, we encourage the UN Secretariat to work closely with Member States, and particularly troop, police,

DGM-2711174-EXT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 12 2018-04-06 3:13 PM

financial and equipment contributing countries, to strengthen the capabilities of UN peacekeeping missions. We reiterate our call for the Secretary-General to ensure that the UN – in particular those offices overseeing peacekeeping, field support and management – has the systems in place to deploy, absorb and sustain newly pledged assets rapidly and in accordance with the specific needs of individual missions, including in areas as airlift, rapid engineering support, force headquarters and police and civilian recruitment.

Effective mandate implementation also requires sustained focus on addressing chronic gaps in relation to policing, francophone and gender capacities. These capacities are critical to mission objectives, maintaining meaningful dialogue with local populations, as well as helping to build the foundation for host nation success.

We further recognise that greater women's participation in peacekeeping is directly linked to improved operational effectiveness. Women's participation broadens the skills and capacities among all categories of personnel and improves the mission's image, accessibility, and credibility vis-à-vis the local population. We therefore call on Member States to realise commitments made at the London UN Peacekeeping Ministerial Conference to double the number of female peacekeepers in missions by 2020, including deploying, at minimum, 15% (military staff officers and observers) and 20% (police) female personnel. We welcome the launch of the Women, Peace and Security Chiefs of Defence Network, which will contribute to these goals, and encourage Member States to appoint Champions and join the network.

We acknowledge that in order to address structural barriers preventing the full involvement of women in national militaries and UN peacekeeping, these objectives should be backed by targeted female recruitment, training, and promotion initiatives; retention strategies; reviews of restrictions on military occupations; regular reporting on the proportion of female and male participation; and implementation of gender-responsive budgeting tools. We further note the importance of empowering women peacekeepers in order to ensure their equal access to relevant senior leadership positions.

INNOVATION IN TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Second, we called for a renewed global training partnership for UN peacekeeping and we encouraged Member State pledges for peacekeeping capacity-building. The complexities of today's operations require coordinated and cross-cutting action to enhance the equipping and training of peacekeepers, including UN police. Notwithstanding that troop and police contributing countries remain responsible for the delivery of training, Member States, regional organisations, and the UN Secretariat bring a collective wealth of knowledge and experience that is unparalleled to that of any single effort.

Thus, we encourage this renewed relationship to be built on sustainable training and capacity building and peer-to-peer learning, supported by expanded triangular partnerships between donors, troop and police contributing countries and the UN Secretariat. This would include frameworks driven by long-term force and police generation needs, informed by data-driven performance assessments, and ensuring continuity between peacekeepers receiving equipment and training and those being deployed.

We welcome the development of the train-the-trainer centre in Entebbe and encourage greater innovative practices such as the use of mobile training teams. Similarly, in recognising the value of training and support for mission leadership, we further welcome the move towards in-mission scenario-based training and leadership partnering initiatives.

DGM-2/1117-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 13 2018-04-06 3:13 PM

We acknowledge the need to strengthen pre-deployment training for UN police, including through the use of the Strategic Guidance Framework as the basis for operational guidance and training tools to ensure coherence across all police-contributing countries.

We recognise the existence of barriers to the development and deployment of qualified women peacekeepers and peacekeeping instructors, and commit to creating mechanisms to overcome these obstacles, in order to provide greater opportunities for women in peacekeeping.

We further acknowledge that a number of large-scale UN peacekeeping operations are taking place in francophone environments. We must continue to address linguistic gaps and enhance operational capabilities in all missions, including those in francophone areas, by leveraging innovative partnership opportunities. We therefore welcome the Ministerial Conference on Peacekeeping in the Francophone Area convened in Paris (October 2016), appreciate the support of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*, and encourage follow-on initiatives to build the capacity of francophone partners to deploy in UN peacekeeping missions.

We also encourage continued efforts to evaluate and improve contingent performance. We agree that high performing peacekeepers are critical to mission success. We strongly emphasise the role of Member States in ensuring operational readiness and certification of their peacekeepers. We recognise the need for the UN to engage earlier and more consistently with troop and police contributing countries in order to identify training gaps and remediation mechanisms to address these gaps where possible

PROTECTING THOSE AT RISK

Third, we underlined that protecting those at risk lies at the heart of modern-day multi-dimensional UN peacekeeping operations. For two decades, the international community has turned to the UN and regional peace operations to respond to conflicts marked by egregious violence toward civilian populations. Today, more than 95% of UN peacekeeping personnel serve in missions with a protection of civilians mandate.

To this end, we emphasise the importance of supporting comprehensive protection of civilians' strategies. This includes training deployed peacekeepers on the protection of civilians and strengthening accountability for the implementation of protection of civilian mandates. We note initiatives by Member States to implement best practices as set out in the Kigali Principles for missions with a protection of civilians mandate.

We note that integrating gender perspectives at all levels of peacekeeping is essential for the protection of civilians. Personnel must be adequately trained to prevent, recognise, and respond to incidents of conflict related sexual violence and gender-based violence. This requires recognition of the unique vulnerabilities faced by women, men, girls and boys, in the peacekeeping setting. Gender considerations must be integrated into all military doctrine and planning, women peacekeepers deployed to engage with certain segments of the local population, and victims'

DGM-27111-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 14 2018-04-06 3:13 PM

rights advocates and protection officers appointed, where appropriate.

We recognise that an equally important component to protecting those at risk includes building the capacity of host states. Where mandated, UN Police play an important role in building the confidence and capacity of the host nation to develop its police and justice services, allowing the UN to reduce and eventually withdraw its peacekeeping operations. Thus, we call on UN Police to put greater focus on fielding and supporting specialised teams that can better support host-state driven needs, as appropriate, and for UN Police to integrate specialised teams into the full range of peacekeeping operations in line with mission mandates.

Moreover, we condemn in the strongest terms sexual exploitation and abuse committed by UN peacekeepers and staff, and call on Member States and the UN Secretariat to redouble efforts on prevention, accountability, and victim assistance. We appreciate the Secretary-General's latest efforts to establish a high-level Circle of Leadership and to develop voluntary compacts with Member States on the elimination of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, which we encourage all Members to pursue with the UN and implement fully.

We welcome the UN's recent adoption of a victim-centered approach, including the appointment of the Victim's Advocate, and in this regard, will strive to clearly identify policies and adequate standards to assist the victims of such heinous acts.

We also recall that peacekeeping can play an important role with respect to the protection of children in conflict. We note the initiative by Member States to develop standards in this area, including the Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers.

We further recognise the importance of deploying peacekeeping missions that contribute positively and operate at minimum risk to people, societies and ecosystems, and achieve maximum efficiency in their use of natural resources, wherever possible.

EARLY WARNING AND RAPID DEPLOYMENT

Fourth, we reiterated that effective early warning and rapid deployment are essential to building confidence amongst civilian populations, and to preventing and interrupting escalations of violence.

Fragmentation across the United Nations remains a major impediment for early and effective engagement in peace and security challenges. We urge the UN Secretariat to bring greater coherency across the UN system and to operate as one, to help strengthen early warning, assessment, analysis and situational awareness, including peacekeeping intelligence capacities.

We further encourage the Secretariat to place greater focus on integrated approaches, including planning mechanisms, to support contingency crisis planning. We emphasise that policing is an component of UN peacekeeping where mandated, and we therefore underline the critical importance of fully integrating police planning into the overall mission planning process.

Cooperation and partnership amongst the host state, Security Council Members, troop, police, financial and equipment contributing countries, regional organisations, and the UN Secretariat, are fundamental to leveraging these key pledges, as well as to identifying and removing bureaucratic obstacles that continue to impede rapid deployment to and within the field. The development of a roster of military and police units available to deploy from

DGM-271117-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 15 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

their home country within 60 days is an important step forward.

We continue to acknowledge the critical role played by regional and sub-regional organisations in confronting some of the world's most difficult peace and security challenges. In particular, we recognise the efforts being made by the African Union and its sub-regional mechanisms to operationalise the Rapid Deployment Capability of the African Standby Force. We appreciate the potential for innovative practices and partnerships to further develop the Force's operational capability and to enhance the planning capacities of both the AU and the UN.

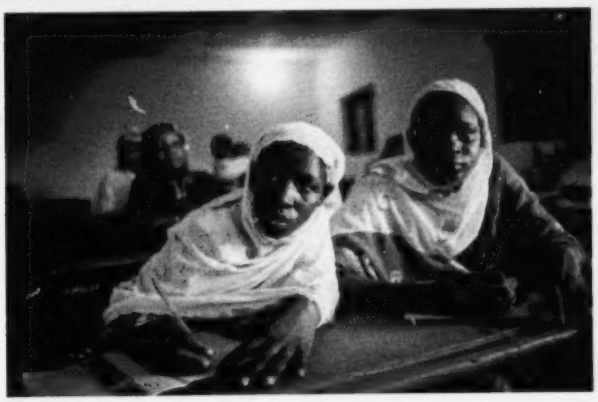
Finally, we note that UN peacekeeping must be ready to respond to a vast array of challenges and that no advantage should be withheld for those working for peace. We therefore encourage the UN to pursue the trial and use of innovative and modern technology in the field, as appropriate and consistent with the basic principles of peacekeeping.

Taken together, and in working differently and better, these efforts will improve UN peacekeeping: building on the strength of our partnerships and common purpose to ensure that UN peacekeeping is fit for purpose in the 21st century.

We recognise this common purpose as the driving force behind our successful discussions at the 2017 UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial. We appreciate the support of Member States, regional organisations, and the UN Secretariat in the lead up to the Vancouver Ministerial, including the three preparatory conferences convened in Bangladesh, Japan and Rwanda. We further appreciate the steadfast support of the co-hosts of the Vancouver Ministerial, including Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, Pakistan, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay.

Lastly, we commend the efforts of Member States in advancing their pledges since 2014, and we encourage all Member States to ensure that their pledges are registered in the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System. We note that pledges made at these high-level conferences are making a difference on the ground, saving lives, and improving UN peacekeeping.

The Vancouver Communiqué has been endorsed by the following Member States: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico , Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania , United States, United Kingdom, Vietnam, and Zambia.



DGM-27111-PXT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 16 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

ANNEX C
VANCOUVER PRINCIPLES ON PEACEKEEPING AND THE PREVENTION OF THE RECRUITMENT AND USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS

The Vancouver Principles are a set of political commitments made by member states regarding training, planning, and the conduct and care of their own forces. Moreover, the Vancouver Principles take an assertive stance on preventing child recruitment in the context of peacekeeping operations, specifically with regard to early warning and the active prevention of recruitment.

The Vancouver Principles were launched on the margins of the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial conference on November 15, 2017.

The Vancouver Principles are as follows:

We, the Member States endorsing the Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers,

Deeply concerned by the widespread recruitment and use of children in situations of armed conflict by armed forces and armed groups, including as fighters, cooks, porters, messengers, spies, or for sexual purposes, as well as other Grave Violations against children in situations of armed conflict,

Reiterating our strong commitment to the protection of children affected by armed conflict and to ending and preventing Grave Violations against children,

Recognizing that the recruitment and use of children are prevalent in areas of contemporary peacekeeping operations, and recalling that peacekeeping can play a role in preventing Grave Violations against children in armed conflict,

Recognizing the important steps taken by the United Nations, Member States, civil society, and other relevant actors to address the recruitment and use of child soldiers,

Recalling United Nations Security Council resolutions 1261 (1999), 1314 (2000), 1379 (2001), 1460 (2013), 1539 (2004), 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011), 2068 (2012), 2143 (2014), and 2225 (2015),

Building upon the success of the Paris Principles on their 10th anniversary and seeking to further articulate their guidance to the peacekeeping context,

Emphasizing the need to prioritize and operationalize the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers in areas of operation of peacekeeping, noting the critical role of such prevention to the achievement of peace and security, and taking into account the differential impact of conflict on girls and boys,

Hereby pledge:

MANDATES

1. To strongly encourage the inclusion of appropriate child protection provisions, including the prevention of recruitment and use of child soldiers, in all United Nations peace keeping mandates, including for regional peacekeeping operations.

PLANNING

2. To prioritize the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers in the strategic and operational planning of all peacekeeping operations.

DGM-2/111/+XT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 17 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

EARLY WARNING

3. To support United Nations efforts to monitor, report, identify, and address early warning signs of the recruitment and use of child soldiers, recognizing that such acts can amount to war crimes and can be a precursor of other war crimes, including attacks on civilians and civilian objects, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

CHILD PROTECTION FOCAL POINTS

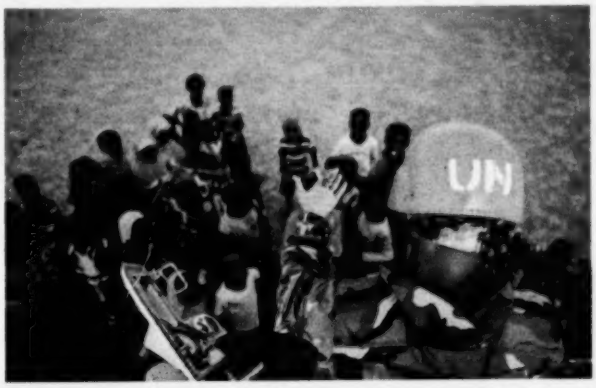
4. To appoint child protection focal points throughout our mission command structures, both military and police, to support the development of a common international standard endorsed by participating nations and the United Nations for training and certification of such focal points, and to enable and encourage active communication, coordination, and cooperation between such focal points and civilian Child Protection Advisors as well as other child protection actors.

TRAINING

5. To ensure that all our peacekeepers receive training on child protection prior to their deployment to peacekeeping operations and to integrate the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers, as well as clear guidance regarding interactions with children associated with armed forces or armed groups, within our peacekeepers' training, education, and doctrine to a common agreed international standard endorsed by the United Nations, and to undertake regular reviews of such training and doctrine to ensure its effectiveness.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

6. To take steps to ensure our peacekeepers report incidents of Grave Violations against children in situations of armed conflict, including the recruitment and use of children, to United Nations Child Protection Advisers or through the appropriate channels established in peacekeeping operations, and to include such monitoring and accountability measures within our national mission mandate and peacekeeping training.



PROTECTION AND CARE OF CHILDREN

7. To take proactive measures to ensure that all children, including those associated with armed forces and armed groups, who come into contact with our peacekeepers during peacekeeping operations are treated in accordance with international humanitarian law and applicable international human rights law, with special consideration of their status as children, and are protected against violations of international humanitarian law and applicable international human rights law, and that any requirements for the care and aid of such children are appropriately addressed and communicated to Heads of Missions and the military chain of command in the most expeditious manner possible in the circumstances.

PREVENTION

8. To act effectively in response to credible information, and where authorized by the mission mandate and our rules of engagement, to protect children at risk of recruitment or use as child soldiers and other Grave Violations.

DETENTION

9. To ensure that all children apprehended and/or temporarily detained in accordance with mission-specific military rules of engagement are treated in a manner consistent with international norms and standards, as well as the special status, needs, and rights of children and to ensure that detention is used as a measure of last resort, for the shortest possible period of time, and with the best interests of the

DGM-27117-FXT UNPKDM Report-Eng v2.indd 18 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

child as a primary consideration, and that they are handed over expeditiously to child protection actors and civilian authorities in line with the established policies and guidance.

CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

10. To hold our own personnel to the highest standard of conduct, and to vigorously and transparently investigate and prosecute, where appropriate and in accordance with applicable national law, or otherwise fully cooperate with the competent authority, any incidents of alleged abuse against children– including sexual exploitation and abuse – by our peacekeepers.

CONTRIBUTION OF WOMEN

11. To recognize the essential contribution of women to peacekeeping operational effectiveness, and the distinct and critical roles of both men and women in the protection of children and the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers.

DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION, AND REINTEGRATION (DDR)

12. To ensure that child soldiers are included as a priority in the planning and execution of all United Nations supported disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and, where appropriate, repatriation efforts, taking into account their specific needs, including those based on gender, age, and other identity factors, to assist in their successful transition to normal life, and to prevent their re-recruitment.

MENTAL HEALTH

13. To actively promote and support research on the trauma experienced by personnel confronting child soldiers and interacting with children affected by armed conflict, and to provide appropriate pre-deployment preparation, as well as mental health support during and post-deployment.

PEACE PROCESSES

14. To support the inclusion of child protection provisions within the terms of peace processes, peace agreements, and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction efforts, noting the unique vulnerability and protection needs of children, the importance of their rehabilitation and reintegration into their communities, and the urgent need to prevent and end the recruitment and use of child soldiers to achieve lasting and sustainable peace.

SANCTIONS

15. To support the inclusion of child recruitment and use as a designation criterion in United Nations sanctions regimes aimed at supporting the political settlement of conflicts in the context of peace operations.

BEST PRACTICES

16. To share with other Member States and the United Nations best practices and lessons learned on the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers in the context of peacekeeping.

FURTHER GUIDANCE

17. And in this regard look forward to the development, in consultation with Member States, the United Nations, and child protection actors, of operational guidance for the implementation of these Principles.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about the 2017 Peacekeeping Ministerial may be found at the following address: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/campaigns/peacekeeping-defence-ministerial.html

DGM-2711714-XT_UNPKDM_Report-Eng_v2.indd 19 2018-04-05 3:13 PM

Disclaimer: The views in this report are summarized and paraphrased from proceedings and may not represent the views of the Government of Canada

Avertissement : Les points de vue exposés dans le présent rapport sont des résumés et paraphrases du contenu des débats, et ne reflètent pas nécessairement les opinions du gouvernement du Canada.

DGM-271117-FXT_UNPKDM Report-Eng_v2.indd 20-21 2018-04-05 3:10 PM